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Reading Practice 6 (high level)



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Part B2

Reading Text 1 and answer questions 1-19

Text 1

建議時間:

S5-S6: 35mins

S3-S4: 45mins

The Thrill of the Chase: Exploring World Chase Tag and Its Counterparts

[1] The World Chase Tag (WCT) is a sport that brings a childhood pastime into the realm of competitive athletics. By blending the simplicity of tag with the agility and skill of parkour, WCT captivates audiences with its fast-paced action, strategic gameplay, and incredible athleticism. In this article, we will delve into the unique features of World Chase Tag, compare it to similar sports such as parkour, ninja competitions, and ultimate frisbee, and explore its significance as a modern phenomenon in sports entertainment.

[2] World Chase Tag is a professional competitive sport where players engage in high-speed chases within an arena called "The Quad." The playing field, measuring 12m x 12m, is equipped with various obstacles such as bars, platforms, and walls, designed to challenge the speed, agility, and creativity of athletes. Matches consist of 16 rounds, each lasting 20 seconds. One player acts as the "chaser," whose aim is to tag the "evader" within the time limit. If the evader successfully avoids the tag, they earn a point for their team. The roles switch with each new round, keeping the dynamics of the game fresh and intense.

[3] WCT's simplicity is part of its allure. The basic rule—tag or evade—is easy to understand, making it accessible to spectators worldwide. However, its execution requires immense skill, endurance, and strategy. Players often utilize parkour techniques, combining precision jumps, flips, and rapid changes in direction to navigate the arena effectively.

[4] World Chase Tag has redefined the boundaries of physical fitness in sports. Athletes must possess a combination of speed, strength, flexibility, and mental acuity. The sport's dynamic nature challenges players to think several steps ahead, predicting their opponent's movements while navigating obstacles at high speeds.

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[5] The parkour influence is evident in the players' techniques. Parkour, a discipline that emphasizes efficient movement through urban environments, trains practitioners to overcome physical barriers using jumps, vaults, and climbs. Similarly, WCT athletes must master fluid motion to evade or capture their opponent. This fusion of athletic skill and spatial awareness sets WCT apart from traditional sports.

1. Parkour and Freerunning

[6] Parkour is perhaps the closest relative to World Chase Tag. Both sports prioritize movement and agility, emphasizing the ability to overcome obstacles with grace and efficiency. However, while parkour is a non-competitive discipline focused on personal development, WCT introduces the element of direct competition. This distinction transforms parkour's artistic expression into a high-stakes duel.

[7] Freerunning, an offshoot of parkour, adds stylistic flair to movement, incorporating flips, spins, and tricks. While WCT players occasionally showcase these elements during chases, their primary focus remains on function over form. The competitive structure of WCT creates a distinct atmosphere, blending the artistry of parkour with the adrenaline of a chase.

2. Ninja Competitions

[8] Ninja competitions, popularized by shows like American Ninja Warrior, share similarities with WCT in their use of obstacle courses. Participants in these events navigate a series of challenging physical tests, including balance beams, rope swings, and warped walls. Like WCT, success requires a combination of strength, endurance, and precision.

[9] However, ninja competitions are primarily individual endeavors, where participants race against the clock rather than face direct opponents. In contrast, WCT's one-on-one format adds a psychological dimension, as players must anticipate their rival's tactics in real time. This head-to-head aspect makes WCT more dynamic and unpredictable than its ninja counterpart.

3. Ultimate Frisbee

[10] While seemingly unrelated, ultimate frisbee shares commonalities with WCT in terms of agility and strategy. Ultimate frisbee is a fast-paced team sport where players rely on quick sprints, sharp directional changes, and strategic positioning to outmaneuver opponents. The emphasis on teamwork and spatial awareness mirrors the skills required in WCT.

[11] However, the two sports differ in their approach to gameplay. Ultimate frisbee relies on coordinated team strategies, whereas WCT is more individualistic, focusing on the direct interaction between the chaser and the evader. This difference highlights WCT's unique appeal as a sport that combines personal skill with collective team dynamics.

[12] The simplicity of WCT's rules, combined with the complexity of its execution, makes it a standout in the world of sports. Unlike traditional games that require extensive equipment or detailed regulations, WCT revolves around a universal concept—tagging. This accessibility has helped the sport gain traction among diverse audiences.

[13] Additionally, WCT's high entertainment value cannot be overstated. The fast-paced chases, coupled with the creative maneuvers of athletes, keep spectators on the edge of their seats. The unpredictable nature of each round ensures that no two matches are the same, offering endless excitement for fans.

[14] Another key aspect is the inclusive nature of WCT. The sport attracts athletes from various disciplines, including parkour, gymnastics, and martial arts. This diversity enriches the competition, as players bring unique skill sets and strategies to the game. It also underscores WCT's versatility as a sport that bridges multiple athletic communities.

[15] World Chase Tag is part of a broader trend of unconventional sports gaining global recognition. Like esports and drone racing, WCT appeals to younger generations seeking innovative forms of entertainment. Its integration of parkour, an already popular urban sport, has helped it resonate with a demographic that values creativity and athleticism.

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[16] Social media has also played a significant role in WCT's rise. Clips of spectacular evasion maneuvers and last-second tags often go viral, drawing attention to the sport's thrilling nature. Platforms like Instagram and TikTok have become crucial tools for promoting WCT, allowing it to reach a global audience.

[17] Despite its growing popularity, WCT faces challenges in establishing itself as a mainstream sport. One of the primary hurdles is infrastructure. The Quad, with its specific dimensions and obstacle configurations, is essential for hosting WCT events. Developing accessible facilities worldwide will be crucial for the sport's expansion.

[18] Additionally, WCT must navigate the balance between maintaining its grassroots appeal and embracing commercialization. As the sport attracts sponsors and larger audiences, there is a risk of losing the authenticity that has endeared it to fans. Ensuring that WCT remains true to its origins while embracing growth will be a key challenge for its organizers.

[19] Looking ahead, WCT has significant potential for growth. The sport could benefit from increased visibility through partnerships with established sports networks and organizations. Hosting international tournaments and regional qualifiers could also help create a structured competitive framework, further legitimizing WCT as a global sport.

Conclusion

[20] World Chase Tag is more than just a game; it is a testament to human creativity and athleticism. By transforming the simple act of tagging into a competitive spectacle, WCT has captured the imagination of athletes and audiences alike. Its unique blend of parkour, strategy, and head-to-head competition sets it apart from similar sports, offering a fresh take on athletic entertainment.

[21] As WCT continues to grow, it serves as a reminder of the endless possibilities within the world of sports. By embracing innovation and inclusivity, it has carved out a niche that celebrates both individual skill and collective excitement. Whether you're a seasoned athlete or a casual fan, World Chase Tag invites you to experience the thrill of the chase—and witness the extraordinary in the ordinary.

END OF READING PASSAGE

Questions

Read Text 1 and answer questions 1-19. (42 marks)

Text 1

1. What does the metaphor “redefines the boundaries” tell us about World Chase Tag according to paragraph 4?

2. Name TWO skills that athletes in World Chase Tag must possess according to the text.

3. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in paragraph 9?

- A. Use of social media to promote the sport
B. International tournaments being organized
C. Challenges in creating regional qualifiers
D. Development of personal parkour skills

A B C D
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

4. What is the text type of Text 1?

- A. Narrative
B. Expository
C. Argumentative
D. Descriptive

A B C D
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

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5. Which of the following would be the best alternative title for this text?

- A. “The Evolution of Competitive Tag”
B. “Parkour Meets Competitive Sports”
C. “World Chase Tag: Innovation in Motion”
D. “A Grassroots Movement in Sports”

A B C D
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

6. Explain the meaning of the idiom “on the edge of their seats” in paragraph 6.

7. Why does the text describe World Chase Tag as “bridging multiple communities”?

8. Read the statements below and indicate whether they reflect the writer’s opinion or a fact. Write W for writer’s opinion and F for fact in the answer column. One has been done for you as an example. (5 marks)

Statement	Answer
e.g. World Chase Tag combines the simplicity of tag with parkour.	F
The sport captivates audiences worldwide.	(i)
Social media platforms play a key role in its popularity.	(ii)
The unpredictability of each round ensures endless excitement.	(iii)
It redefines the boundaries of physical fitness.	(iv)
World Chase Tag is one of the most innovative sports today.	(v)

9. Why does the text claim that social media plays a crucial role in the growth of World Chase Tag?

10. Complete the table by finding an example from the text for each of the following. (5 marks)

Feature of World Chase Tag	Example from the text
Combines creativity and athleticism	(i) _____
Relies on unpredictability for excitement	(ii) _____
Appeals to multiple communities	(iii) _____
Requires a high level of fitness	(iv) _____
Benefits from social media exposure	(v) _____

11. According to the passage are the following statements True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG)? (4 marks)

Statements

- (i) Social media ensures that World Chase Tag clips are accessible to everyone.
 (ii) Athletes need parkour experience to compete in World Chase Tag.
 (iii) Younger audiences find World Chase Tag boring due to its repetitive format.
 (iv) The unpredictability of World Chase Tag makes every match unique.

T	F	NG
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

12. Find an expression in paragraph 16 that can be replaced by "spread rapidly." _____

13. According to paragraph 8, give ONE example of how World Chase Tag attracts younger audiences. _____

14. Do you think World Chase Tag should maintain its grassroots appeal while expanding globally? With reference to Text 1, give ONE reason to support your view. _____

15. What are the potential challenges of commercializing World Chase Tag while maintaining its grassroots appeal? Use evidence from the text to justify your answer. _____

16. Is the writer optimistic or pessimistic about the future of World Chase Tag? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. _____

17. Complete the summary of paragraphs 12 to 21 using a word or phrase taken from the paragraphs for each blank. (5 marks)

World Chase Tag is gaining popularity due to its high (i) _____ value and (ii) _____ gameplay. The sport attracts younger audiences by leveraging (iii) _____ platforms like TikTok. Challenges include ensuring accessibility of (iv) _____ and maintaining its (v) _____ appeal while growing commercially.

18. Below are summary headings for each paragraph of Text 1. Match the most appropriate heading with each paragraph by writing the letters (A-G) in the Answer column. Each letter can be used ONCE only. (6 marks)

Headings	Paragraph Number	Answer
A. Similar Sports for Comparison and Contrast	2-3	(i) _____
B. The Rise of Modern Competitive Sports	4-5	(ii) _____
C. The Athleticism Behind WCT	6-11	(iii) _____
D. What is World Chase Tag?	12-13	(iv) _____
E. Challenges and Future Prospects	15-16	(v) _____
F. What Makes World Chase Tag Unique?	17-19	(vi) _____

19. Using information from the text, compare and contrast World Chase Tag with Ninja Competitions and Ultimate Frisbee. In your answer, discuss how the gameplay structure and required skills of World Chase Tag differ from these two sports. (4 marks)

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Answers with paragraph numbers:

1. The metaphor “redefines the boundaries” tells us that World Chase Tag pushes the limits of physical fitness, requiring athletes to combine speed, strength, and mental strategy in ways that go beyond traditional sports. [4]
2. Athletes in World Chase Tag must possess speed and agility to successfully navigate the obstacles and avoid or tag their opponents. [4, 5]
3. A
4. B
5. C
6. The idiom “on the edge of their seats” means being extremely excited, tense, or eager while watching something, as it keeps the audience highly engaged and anticipating what will happen next. [13]
7. The text describes World Chase Tag as “bridging multiple communities” because it attracts athletes from diverse disciplines such as parkour, gymnastics, and martial arts, which brings together different skill sets and strategies into one competitive sport. [14]
8. (i) W
(ii) F
(iii) W
(iv) W
(v) W [4, 13, 16]
9. The text claims that social media plays a crucial role in the growth of World Chase Tag because viral clips showcasing thrilling evasion maneuvers and exciting chases attract attention and help the sport reach a global audience. [16]
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10. (i) Fusion of parkour techniques and strategic movement [5]
(ii) The unpredictable nature of each round [13]
(iii) Attracts athletes from parkour, gymnastics, and martial arts [14]
(iv) Athletes need speed, strength, and flexibility [4]
(v) Clips often go viral on platforms like TikTok [16]
11. (i) NG [16]
(ii) F [5]
(iii) F [16]
(iv) T [13]
12. The expression “go viral” can be replaced by “spread rapidly.” [16]
13. World Chase Tag attracts younger audiences by utilizing social media platforms like Instagram and TikTok, where clips of thrilling maneuvers and chases often go viral. [16]
14. Yes, World Chase Tag should maintain its grassroots appeal while expanding globally because its authenticity and simplicity are what initially drew fans to the sport, as stated in paragraph 18. Losing this appeal could alienate its core audience. [18]
15. One of the potential challenges of commercializing World Chase Tag is balancing its grassroots authenticity with the need for growth. The text mentions that as the sport gains sponsors and attracts larger audiences, there is a risk of losing the appeal that initially made it popular among fans. [18]
16. The writer is optimistic about the future of World Chase Tag. This is evident in the text’s suggestion that the sport has “significant potential for growth” and could benefit from partnerships, international tournaments, and increased visibility. [19]
17. (i) entertainment
(ii) unpredictable
(iii) social media
(iv) infrastructure
(v) grassroots [12-19]

18. (i) D
(ii) C
(iii) A
(iv) E
(v) B
(iv) F
19. World Chase Tag differs from ninja competitions because ninja competitions are primarily individual races against the clock (1), whereas World Chase Tag involves direct one-on-one gameplay, adding a psychological element (1). In comparison to ultimate frisbee, World Chase Tag focuses on individual interactions (chaser vs. evader) (1), while ultimate frisbee emphasizes coordinated team strategies and positioning. All three sports require agility, speed, and strategic thinking (1). [8-11]

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Practical Vocab and Usage List

1. **agility** [1] /ə'dʒɪl.ə.ti/ [n] 敏捷度

e.g. His agility allowed him to climb the wall effortlessly. 同義詞: **nimbleness**

2. **captivates** [1] /'kæp.tɪ.verts/ [v] 吸引

e.g. The performance captivates audiences with its intensity. 同義詞: **enthalls**

3. **endurance** [3] /ɪn'dʒʊə.rəns/ [n] 耐力

e.g. Marathon runners need exceptional endurance. 同義詞: **stamina**

4. **spatial** [5] /'speɪ.ʃəl/ [adj] 空間感的、立體的

e.g. Artists often possess excellent spatial awareness. 同義詞: **geometric**

5. **precision** [8] /prɪ'sɪʒ.ən/ [n] 精準度

e.g. The surgery required incredible precision. 同義詞: **accuracy**

6. **artistry** [7] /'ɑː.tɪ.stri/ [n] 藝術性、創造性

e.g. The dancer's artistry mesmerized the audience. 同義詞: **craftsmanship**

7. **flair** [7] /fleə/ [n] 天賦、技巧

e.g. She has a flair for design and aesthetics. 同義詞: **talent**

8. **unpredictability** [9] /ˌʌn.pri.dɪk.tə'bɪl.ɪ.ti/ [n] 不確定性

e.g. The game's unpredictability kept us excited. 同義詞: **uncertainty**

9. **accessibility** [12] /ək.ses.ə'bɪl.ɪ.ti/ [n] 容易理解

e.g. The app's accessibility makes it user-friendly. 同義詞: **availability**

10. **versatility** [14] /ˌvɜː.sə'tɪl.ɪ.ti/ [n] 多用途、靈活性

e.g. His versatility as an actor is impressive. 同義詞: **adaptability**

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11. **resonate** [15] /ˈrez.ə.neɪt/ [v] 引起共鳴

e.g. Her speech resonated with the audience. 同義詞: **echo**

12. **unconventional** [15] /ˌʌn.kən'ven.fən.əl/ [adj] 非傳統的、創新的

e.g. He has an unconventional way of solving problems. 同義詞: **innovative**

13. **phenomenon** [1] /fə'nɒm.i.nən/ [n] 現象、奇蹟、特殊情況

e.g. The northern lights are a natural phenomenon. 同義詞: **occurrence**

14. **infrastructure** [17] /ˈɪn.frəˌstrʌk.tʃər/ [n] 建設

e.g. The city invested heavily in new infrastructure. 同義詞: **foundation**

15. **commercialization** [18] /kəˌmɜː.ʃəl.aɪ'zeɪ.ʃən/ [n] 商業化

e.g. The commercialization of the festival has diluted its cultural value. 同義詞: **monetization**

16. **legitimacy** [19] /lɪ'dʒɪt.ɪ.mə.si/ [n] 合法性、正當性

e.g. The reform aims to strengthen the legitimacy of the government. 同義詞: **validity**

18. **inclusive** [21] /ɪn'kluː.sɪv/ [adj] 包括的、全面的

e.g. The program is designed to be inclusive for all students. 同義詞: **comprehensive**

20. **grassroots** [18] /'grɑː.s.ruːts/ [adj] 基層的

e.g. The grassroots movement gained widespread support. 同義詞: **fundamental**

21. **on the edge of their seats** [13] /ɒn ði 'ɛdʒ əv ðeə 'siːts/ [idiom] 坐立不安

e.g. The thrilling movie kept everyone on the edge of their seats. 同義詞: **full of suspense**

22. **goes viral** [16] /gəʊz 'vaɪə.rəl/ [idiom] 病毒般傳播

e.g. The video went viral within hours of being uploaded. 同義詞: **spreads rapidly**

23. **strikes a balance** [8] /straɪks ə 'bæl.əns/ [phrase] 達到平衡

e.g. The design strikes a balance between functionality and aesthetics. 同義詞: **achieves equilibrium**

24. **adrenaline rush** [7] /ə'dren.əl.ɪn 'rʌʃ/ [phrase] 強烈興奮

e.g. The roller coaster gave me a huge adrenaline rush. 同義詞: **burst of excitement**

25. **takes center stage** [20] /teɪks 'sɛn.tə.steɪdʒ/ [idiom] 成為焦點

e.g. The main character takes center stage in this scene. 同義詞: **becomes the focus**

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